

DISSERTATIO MEDICA

INAUGURALIS

DE

NOSTALGIA;

QUAM,

ANNUENTE SUMMO NUMINE,

EX AUCTORITATE REVERENDI ADMODUM VIRI,

D. GEORGII BAIRD, SS. T. P.

ACADEMIAE EDINBURGENAE PRAEFECTI ;

NECNON

AMPLISSIMI SENATUS ACADEMICI CONSENSU,

ET NOBILISSIMAE FACULTATIS MEDICAE DECRETO;

Pro Gradu Doctoris,

SUMMISQUE IN MEDICINA HONORIBUS AC PRIVILEGIIS

RITE ET LEGITIME CONSEQUENDIS ;

ERUDITORUM EXAMINI SUBJICIT

Georgius Seymour,

Hibernus,

SOC. REG. PHYS. EDIN. SOD. EX.

Such is the patriot's boast, where'er we roam,
His first, best country ever is at home.

Heu nullis medicabilis herbis.

OVID.

Kalendis Augusti, horâ locoque solitis.

EDINBURGI:

EXCUDEBANT DUN. STEVENSON ET SOCII.

MDCCCXVIII.

DISSERTATIO MEDICA

IN AUGUSTALIS

DE

NOSTALGIA

Nicol. Georgii Seymour, Armigeri,

D. GEORGII DE COBDAIA SS. T. P.

PATRI OPTIMO BENIGNISSIMO

REVERENTIA QUA DEBIT

ANIMOQUE GRATO

PAGINAS SEQUENTES

RITE ET FACILITER CONSECRAVIT

D. D. COUE

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Georgius Seymour

GEORGIUS SEYMOUR

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Nicol. Georgio Seymour, Armigero,

DE CORCAGIA,

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ANIMOQUE GRATO,

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DE CORCAGIA,
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MILITIS

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GEORGIUS SEYMOUR.

Guliel. Smith, Armigero,

DE CORCAGIA,

HANC DISSERTATIONEM

ANIMI DEVINCTISSIMI TESTIMONIUM,

DICAT

GEORGIUS SEYMOUR.

DISSERTATIO MEDICA

DISSERTATIO MEDICA

IN AUCTORE

Guilj. Smith. Grinneto.

DE

DE CORCAGIA

NOSTALGIA

ANIMAE DOLUS

AUCTORE GEORGIO SEYMOUR

DIGIT

GEORGIO SEYMOUR

Quando historiam generis humani accurate as-

piciamus, plurimos scriptores invenimus, qui ho-

minem putare amore localis non possidere;

et qui, secum in animis volentes, habitum cor-

poris illorum, non solum formatum calorem ex-

ternum, sed etiam frigus terre, assumunt; et

mentes mortalium non praedestinas esse illam

amorem impedire versus patriam, quae habitum

primum recepit. Hi philosophi hominem in toto

etque rudi statu aspicientes, ubi illam hanc

certo vitae modo, ex uno loco ad alium vagan-

tem?

DISSERTATIO MEDICA

INAUGURALIS

DE

NOSTALGIA.

AUCTORE GEORGIO SEYMOUR.

QUANDO historiam generis humani accurate aspicimus, plurimos scriptores invenimus, qui hominem putavere amorem localem non possidere: et qui, secum in animis volventes, habitum corporis illorum, non solum formatum calorem extremum, sed etiam frigus ferre, assumunt; et mentes mortalium non praedestinatatas esse ullum amorem imbibere versus patriam, quae halitum primum recepit. Hi philosophi hominem in fero atque rudi statu aspicientes, ubi illum haud certo vitae modo, ex uno loco ad alium vagantem

tem inveniunt; hanc vitam incertam documentum insigne praebere, nullum amorem patriae unquam fuisse, credere ducuntur; vel si fortasse in gentes humanae oribus inveniatur; ex imaginationibus poetarum originem duxisse. “ Si hic amor patriae (ita aiunt philosophi), in genere humano tam generaliter praevaluisset, ut multi credunt; ingentes catervae errantes Septentrionalium Barbarorum, qui, imperio Romano labente, mundum excitavere, in suis regionibus saevisque remotis remanere, et in campis jucundioribus Italiae res novas atque domos alias quaerere, haud inducerentur.” Hi auctores notionibus rerum tam angustis ducti, illam animi devolutionem obliti quam civilizatio producit, ad regulas suas haerere persuadentur, quae sapientissime, a maxima parte hominum renunciantur. “ The world is my country, and the world is my home.” Hujus scholae philosophorum est semper thema dulcissima. Illis conjunctum clarum BOLINGBROKE habemus. Hic vir primarius, omnia ex memoria amovens, quae ad patriam natalem nexuerunt, (similis alii ANAXAGORAE) exclamat, “ Let us march forward
wherever

wherever we are led, by the course of human events; on what coast soever we are thrown, we shall not find ourselves absolute strangers; we shall meet beings endowed with the same faculties, and subject to the same laws of nature; we shall experience the same virtues and vices, varied in a thousand different modes; we shall feel the same revolutions of the seasons, and the same sun and moon will guide the seasons of the year, the same azure vault bespangled with stars, will be spread over our heads; and, whilst our minds are occupied with high and philosophical contemplations, it imports nothing what ground we tread upon." Priusquam auctoritati BOLINGBROKE, ut-cunque maximae, cedimus, reminisci nobis necesse est hunc philosophum, in medio tumulti et discordiae civilis exulem damnatum et longe a patria natali dimissum esse, atque forsitan sub judicio torquentem omnes, cogitationes hujus amoris localis mente repellere voluisse. Multos insignes viros fuisse invenimus, cuidam voluptati charissimae deditos, in quibus amor patriae pro tempore deletus est; pro gratia exempli HORATIUS sub imperio
saevo

saevo amoris laborans, suarum provinciarum fertilium oblitus, dicit,

- “ Pone me pigris ubi nulla campis
“ Arbor aëstivâ recreatur aurâ ;
“ Quod latus mundi nebulae, malusque
“ Jupiter urget :
“ Pone sub curru nimium propinqui
“ Solis, in terrâ domibus negatâ,
“ Dulcè ridentem Lalagen amabo,
“ Dulcè loquentem.”

Hor. Lib. i, Ode 22.

Haec exempla utcunque magna hanc animi affectionem aliquando dormire, haud omnino deficere, solum ostendere pertinent; nunc argumenta investigare, amorem patriae clare existere, nos certiores facientia, eamus. In omni terra, incolas ad solum natalem amorem foventes, videmus, atque haec affectio tam maxima est, ut multi, illam ex natura originem trahere, putare inducantur.

Inter gentes barbaras, quod sufficit probare amorem patriae existere, invenire haud possumus, itaque ad terras ubi cultus regnat, nobis aspicere necesse est; illic virtutes egregissimas ex hac affectione

affectione animi productas videmus; nec fama, nec ambitio tam plurima exempla insignia fortitudinis, ut amor patriae, unquam produxerunt. In historia Graecorum Romanorumque, res gestas sub impulsu affectionis localis miramus et cum laudibus meritis illum virum ornamus, qui pronuntiavit.

“ Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.”

Inter Graecos, virtutes PERICLIS, PHOCIONIS, EPAMINONDAE, admirationem mundi evocavere; et nervosa eloquentia DEMOSTHENIS haud minus miranda est, in climace sequente pulcherrima, exclamantis, “ In my affection to my native land, you find me ever firm and invariable. Not the solemn demand of my person, not the vengeance which the Amphyctionic council denounced, nor the fury of those accursed wretches whom they roused like wild beasts against me, could ever tear this affection from my heart.” Aetate ineunte imperii Romani, amorem patriae ad extremum orbem terrarum arma tulisse, etiam invenimus. Affectio soli natalis venerabilem FABRICIUM
aurea

aurea munera PYRRHI rejicere induxit; hic nobilis Romanus patriam amavit, et tametsi in paupertate extrema, illecebras hostium contempsit. Virtutes CINCINNATI miramur, CATONIS, et BRUTI, *ultimi Romanorum*, qui amicum gladio interfecit, pro bono patriae. In historia Judaeorum, multa exempla affectionem suam ad solum natalem ostendunt; in catenis ducti et a patria absentes, aerumnas in his verbis ploraverunt.

“ By the rivers of Babylon there we sat down; yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion.”

In temporibus provectionibus, WALLACE “champion of his native land,” BRUCE, HAMPDEN, SIDNEY, RUSSEL, sunt exempla insignia amoris patriae, et in nostra memoria, illustris NELSON qui ad lethum festinans, exclamavit verbis haud unquam obliviscendis.

“ England expects every man to do his duty.”

Certamen nobile “pro aris et focis,” virtutem Poloniae memoriae tradet. In media fama et gloria KOSCIUSKO insignis vitae munus perfecit:

“ Warsaw’s

“ Warsaw’s last champion from her heights surveyed,
 “ Wide o’er her fields a waste of ruin laid;
 “ Oh! heavens! he cried, my bleeding country save,
 “ Is there no hand on high to shield the brave;
 “ Yet though destruction sweeps those lovely plains,
 “ Rise, fellow-men! our country yet remains;
 “ By that dread name we wave the sword on high,
 “ And swear for her to live—for her to die.”

CAMPBELL.

Nobis considerantibus insignia exempla praece-
 dentia, affectionem ex ambitione longe remotam,
 in mentibus hominum existere, plane apparet;
 atque illos viros, qui enumerati sunt, acta virtutis
 nobilissima solum ex patriae amore, tollere exci-
 tatos esse.

Hanc affectionem animi multa beneficia generi
 humano praebere haud potest negari; sed aliquando
 eventa infaustissima ex nimis foveta indulgentia
 oriri invenimus. Amor, gaudium, et ceteri animi
 affectus, metis prudentiae trajectis, morbos fiunt,
 et hic amor patriae etiam catervam longam symp-
 tomatum morbidorum, vocatam a nosologis Nos-
 talgiam, inducit.

HISTORIA

HISTORIA MORBI.

Hic morbus a nosologis varie in systematibus tractatur. VOGELIUS nostalgiam speciem melancholiae consideravit. CULLENUS exempla aliorum consecutus, in ordine dysorexiarum posuit; sed ex illis paululum dissentiens inter locales, non inter vesanias decrevit, et in hoc modo definivit.

“ In absentibus a patria vehemens eandem revisendi desiderium.”

SAUVEGESIUS in classe vesaniarum ponit, et in modo sequente historiam tradit.

“ Parentum, patriaeve tanta cupiditas, ut, hac non expleta, aeger gravi morbo decumbat.”

Quando necessitas hominem, patriam natalem, pro longo tempore relinquere urget; memoriae dierum praeteritarum locorumque remotorum desiderium

desiderium domum redeundi excitat; et hoc desiderium nimis nutritum, melancholia aegrum immersit, vicinitatemque hominum fugere, inducit; sodales relinquit, et dolor animi desertas quaerere compellit. In hac solitudine, facies sanitatis rubicunda citissime perditur; sanguis in rivo exiguo, haud solito propellitur; dejectio animi bene notatur; oculi splendorem amittunt; membra corpori emaciato subsidium ferre recusant; appetitus cibi deficit; et alvus astricta fit. Lachrymae abortae genas diminutas irrigant; et suspiria frequentia sinum tumescunt. Somnum longe in exilium mittitur.

“Nec placidam membris dat cura quietem.”
Nunc morbus ad stadium ultimum festinantem invenimus; febris hectica supervenit, et anasarca aegrum cito morti assignat.

“Miseros consumit et ad lethum ducit si adeundi patriam cognatosque copia denegatur.”

DIAGNOSIS.

MEDICUM, judicium hujus morbi formare, historia aegri solum adjuvet; nam signa bene notata desunt, nostalgiam ex aliis morbis eadem symptomata habentibus, distinguere.

CAUSAE PRAEDISPONENTES.

DEVOLUTIO quarundum animi affectionum ex civilizatione pendet; inter has amor patriae locum insignem habet.

Homo in rudi et statu barbaro, victum necessarium acquirere solum vires intendit; ad nullum locum nequitur, vitam incertam et vagantem degit, atque casulas semper pro tempore erectas, sine ullo desiderio relinquit. His rebus existentibus, invenire hominem amorem soli natalis foventem haud sperare possumus. Sed ubi leges sociabiles

sociabiles hominem ad hominem connectunt, ubi civilizatio omnia cum intuitu philosophi inspicere docet, ubi doctrina, scientiaque amoenitatem locorum amare monstrant, ubi acta virtutis in priscis temporibus, a poetis antiquis cantata gaudium voluptatemque inducunt, et majorum vestigiis inhaerendi stimulum praebent, illic amorem patriae invenimus, et has causas, quae ad Nostalgiam maxime praedisponunt.

CAUSAE EXCITANTES.

OMNIA, quae in tellure remota memoriam jucundam rerum, locorumque longe relictorum evocant, sunt hujus morbi causae excitantes.

“ There is no man who has not some interesting associations with particular scenes, or airs, or books, and who does not feel their beauty or sublimity enhanced to him by such connexions. The view of the house where one was born, of
the

the school where one was educated, and where the gay years of infancy were passed, is indifferent to no man. They recal so many images of past happiness, and past affections, they are connected with so many strong or valued emotions, and lead altogether to so long a train of feelings and recollections, that there is hardly any scene which one ever beholds with so much rapture. There are songs also, that we have learnt in our infancy, which, when brought to our remembrance in after years, raise emotions, for which we cannot well account; and which, though perhaps very indifferent in themselves, still continue, from this association, and from the variety of conceptions which they kindle in our minds, to be our favourites through life. The scenes which have been distinguished by the residence of any person, whose memory we admire, produce a similar effect.” *Movemur enim nescio quo pacto, locis ipsis, in quibus eorum, quos diligimus aut admiramur adsunt vestigia.* “The scenes themselves may be little beautiful; but the delight with which we recollect the traces of their lives, blends

blends itself insensibly with the emotions which the scenery excites; and the admiration which these recollections afford, seems to give a kind of sanctity to the place where they dwelt, and converts every thing into beauty which appears to be connected with them.”*

Aliquando ars musica, ut in scriptis celeberrimi ALISON, supra dicta, morbum excitare invenitur et cantus celebratus inter Helvetios “Ranz des vaches” vocatus, nobis insignes effectus melodiae bene ostendit. Plurima quoque utcunque per se levia, tamen rebus particularibus existentibus, et in regione peregrina, fortuito detecta, summi momenti fient, et effectum agendi fortiter in animum habebunt, cujus sequens, egregium exemplum praebebit. “Whilst we were at dinner,” dicit ille navigator illustris, praefectus KING, in suis itineribus, “in a miserable hut, on the banks of the river Awatska, the guests of a people of whose existence we had before been scarcely acquainted

* ALISON on Taste.

quainted, and at the extremity of the habitable globe, a solitary half worn pewter spoon, whose shape was familiar to us, attracted our attention, and on examination, we found it stamped with the word London on the back. I cannot," addit praefectus KING, "pass over this circumstance in silence, out of gratitude for the many pleasant thoughts, the anxious fears, and tender remembrances that it excited in us. Those who have experienced the effects that long absence and extreme distance from their native country produce, will readily conceive the pleasure such a trifling incident can give."

CAUSA PROXIMA.

PROXIMA causa Nostalgiae tam obscura videtur, ut ulla investigatio quanquam minuta, ad theori-
ariam

riam inanem, cogitationem infructuosamque, tantum duceret.

Gaudium, spes, alique jucundi affectus animi non solum corpus roborant, exhilarantque, sed etiam a morbo protegunt; dum moeror, dejectio et metus effectum contrarium producant, rotas actionis, viteque tardant, et compaginem totius corporis omnino laxant. Sed conari reddere rationem modi agendi illius, quem tantum nomine scimus, revera supervacuum esset.

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## DE CURATIONE.

IN curatione hujus morbi ars medicina his minime valet, et opes ferre in levando symptomata debilitatis, constipationisque ubi adsunt. Cinchona et vino pro tonicis utamur, atque eodem tempore exercitatio levis adjuventum dilectum praebebit. Sed in nostalgia, ut mens haud sana corpus cito

afficit,



afficit, nobis remove causas quae desiderium domi adjuvent necesse sit.

- “ Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow ;
- “ Raze out the written troubles of the brain ;
- “ And with some sweet oblivious antidote,
- “ Cleanse the foul bosom of that perilous stuff,
- “ Which weighs upon the heart.”—MACBETH.

Curatio mali solummodo petenda est a reditu in patriam natalem ; vel spes cito redeundi frequentissime ostendendo, atque cum jucundo sermone animum miseri excitando ; nam utcumque debilis, imbecillisque aeger sit, prorsus, in specie ad umbram redactus et ad faciendum iter omnino impotens, attamen fausta signa jamjam in apparatu itineris sui quamprimum prodent sese. Tempus quod lento pede antehac serpserat, nunc volucer, cito abit. Vigorem et alacritatem suam solitam recuperat ; sanguis luridam genam denuo revisit ; et aeger, quasi incantamento mutatus, paulatim pinguescit.

Sed cum torpore et inertia cerebri et nervosi generis, durities alvi pertinax aliquando adest.

Haec



Haec catharticis acribus et repetitis semper amovendum est. Experientia nos docet hanc consuetudinem summi momenti esse.

Si pervigilium adsit opio uti necesse sit.

Laesiones organicae jecoris vel aliorum viscerum, serius ocius haud infrequenter oriuntur.

Ad hoc malum debellandum preparata ex Hydrargyro, acidum nitrosum, &c. sunt administranda.

FINIS.



Hanc castitatem scilicet et de qua supra dictum  
vendam est. Expositio in hoc libro  
tutidem summi momenti est.

Si pervigilium adit opo uti videtur sit.

Laesiones organicae jecoris vel aliorum viscerum  
tam, series oculis haud infrequenter occurrunt.  
Ad hoc malum debellandum preparata ex illo  
tractato, acidum bituminosum est, quod adhibere  
tranda.

Pro Genua tractata

ROMANUS 2123

FINIS